

Claims

[c1] WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cupholder assembly adapted for use in a vehicle for supporting containers, the vehicle having a receiving aperture for receiving the cupholder assembly, the cupholder assembly comprising:

a cupholder housing adapted for use in a vehicle and having an opening on one end adapted to accept;

a cupholder tray adapted for slidable connection within said cupholder housing between storage and use positions; and

a cupholder infinitely adjustable articulated arm unit adapted for permanent mounting on said cupholder tray, said cupholder infinitely adjustable articulated arm unit comprising;

a body portion adapted for permanent mounting on said cupholder tray and further adapted to hold beverage containers,

at least one articulating arm adapted to hold beverage containers and pivotal about and connected to said body portion by,

a living hinge; and

said cupholder infinitely adjustable articulated arm unit being molded with the at least one living hinged articulating arm in a normally closed position and further molded of a first plastic composition and over-molded of a second plastic capable of

providing a spring-like closing action to said at least one living hinged articulating arm when it is pivoted out of said normally closed position.

- [c2] 2.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, said cupholder assembly housing and tray are composed of a plastic.
- [c3] 3.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, said cupholder assembly housing and tray are composed of an injection molded plastic.
- [c4] 4.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 3 wherein, said injection molded plastic is polypropylene.
- [c5] 5.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, said cupholder assembly infinitely adjustable articulating arm unit is injection molded of a polypropylene and over-molded of a compound selected from the group consisting essentially of thermoplastic elastomers (TPE), thermoplastic olefins (TPO), and polyvinyl chlorides (PVC).
- [c6] 6.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 5 wherein, said cupholder assembly infinitely adjustable articulating arm unit is over-molded with the TPE Santoprene.
- [c7] 7.A cupholder assembly adapted for use in a vehicle for supporting containers, the vehicle having a receiving aperture

for receiving the cupholder assembly, the cupholder assembly comprising:

a cupholder housing adapted for use in a vehicle and having an opening on one end adapted to accept;

a cupholder tray adapted for slidable connection within said cupholder housing between storage and use positions; and

a cupholder infinitely adjustable articulated arm unit adapted for permanent mounting on said cupholder tray, said

cupholder infinitely adjustable articulated arm unit comprising;

a body portion adapted for permanent mounting on said cupholder tray and further adapted to hold beverage containers,

two articulating arms each adapted to hold a beverage container and each pivotal about and connected to said body portion by,

a living hinge; and

said cupholder infinitely adjustable articulated arm unit being molded with the two living hinged articulating arms in a normally closed position and further molded of a first plastic composition and over-molded of a second plastic capable of providing a spring-like closing action to said two living hinged articulating arms when they are pivoted out of said normally closed position.

[c8] 8. The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 7 wherein, said

cupholder assembly housing and tray are composed of a plastic.

- [c9] 9.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 7 wherein, said cupholder assembly housing and tray are composed of an injection molded plastic.
- [c10] 10.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 9 wherein, said injection molded plastic is polypropylene.
- [c11] 11.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 7 wherein, said cupholder assembly infinitely adjustable articulating arm unit is injection molded of a polypropylene and over-molded of a compound selected from the group consisting essentially of thermoplastic elastomers, thermoplastic olefins, and polyvinyl chlorides.
- [c12] 12.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 11 wherein, said cupholder assembly infinitely adjustable articulating arm unit is injection molded of a polypropylene and over-molded of a TPE.
- [c13] 13.The cupholder assembly as claimed in Claim 12 wherein, said cupholder assembly infinitely adjustable articulating arm unit is over-molded with the TPE Santoprene.